

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 /056 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 764

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CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS BANGKOK 2582

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TH

SUBJ: SENI PRAMOT'S COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT FORMATION

REF: BANGKOK 2572

1. SENI PRAMOT HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 13. THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF SOME OF HIS COMMENTS:

REPORTER: HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW?

SENI: I CANNOT EXPRESS MY FEELINGS YET BECAUSE THE SPEAKER HAS NOT SUBMITTED MY NAME TO THE KING AND A ROYAL PROCLAMATION HAS NOT BEEN ISSUED YET APPOINTING ME.

REPORTER: WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE FORMING OF THE GOVERNMENT?

SENI: AFTER A ROYAL PROCLAMATION IS ISSUED APPOINTING ME, I WILL FORM THE GOVERNMENT AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE. I OBTATOLD 133 VOTES, BUT REAR ADMIRAL TAHAN KHAMHIRAN IS ILL AND COULD NOT BE PRESENT TO VOTE, AND I DID NOT VOTE, THEREFORE THE VOTES SUPPORTING ME COULD BE COUNTED AS TOTALLING 135, THUS BEING SUFFICIENT FOR ME

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TO SET UP THE GOVERNMENT. WHEN IT CAN BE SET UP DEPENDS ON THE

ISSUE OF A ROYAL PROCLAMATION APPOINTING ME FIRST. I CANNOT MAKE ANY MOVE AT PRESENT BECAUSE IT WOULD BE PROPER.

REPORTER: WHICH PARTIES DO YOU HAVE IN MIND TO COOPERATE IN SETTING UP YOUR GOVERNMENT?

SEN: IN ANY CASE IT MUST BE A COALITION GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRAT PARTY AND THE SOCIAL AGRARIAN PARTY. THE THAI NATION PARTY MADE CONTACT IN THE PAST TO COOPERATE IN SETTING UP THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DOOR STILL REMAINS OPEN. THEREFORE I WISH TO EMPHASIZE CLEARLY THAT THE DOOR STILL REMAINS OPEN FOR THE THAI NATION PARTY TO COME AND COOPERATE IN SETTING UP THE GOVERNMENT, BECAUSE IT MADE CONTACT AND OFFERED TO COOPERATE IN FORMING THE GOVERNMENT.

REPORTER: WILL THE SOCIAL ACTION PARTY COOPERATE ALSO?

SEN: IN REGARD TO THE SOCIAL ACTION PARTY, KHUKRIT STATED HE WOULD SUPPORT US BUT NOT JOIN US. BUT SHOULD HE JOIN US WE WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO WELCOME HIM.

REPORTER: WHAT CONDITIONS IS THE THAI NATION PARTY DEMANDING?

SEN: WE ARE NOT SPEAKING ABOUT CONDITIONS AT THIS STAGE. WE ARE SPEAKING ONLY ABOUT THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE DOOR IS STILL OPEN FOR THE THAI NATION PARTY TO JOIN US BECAUSE CONTACT WAS STILL MADE LAST NIGHT. I INFORMED MAJ. GEN. PRAMAN AND MAJ. GEN. CHATCHAI JUST NOW THAT THE DOOR IS STILL OPEN, BECAUSE WE HAVE HAD CONTACTS AND HELD TALKS THROUGHOUT AND WE MET AT THE LAST MINUTE, LAST NIGHT. THEREFORE, THE DOOR REMAINS OPEN FOR THEM TO COME AND JOIN US. WHY? BECAUSE WE WANT STABILITY. YOU WILL HAVE NOTICED THAT A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF MP'S ABSTAINED FROM VOTING, THEREFORE IT IS AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO POSSESS STABILITY AND FOR OUR COUNTRY TO ENJOY STABILITY IF WE HAVE GOOD INTENTIONS TOWARD OUR NATION. THIS IS WHY I HAVE SAID THAT I WOULD BE MOST HAPPY IF THE THAI NATION PARTY COMES AND COOPERATES WITH US, AND THAT INCLUDES THE SOCIAL ACTION PARTY AND ANY AND ALL OTHER PARTIES, AS WELL AS PARTIES WHICH SUPPORT US, SUCH AS THE NEW FORCE PARTY, AND SGERY AND ALL PERSONS WHO SUPPORT US. THIS SHOWS THAT WE OBSTRUCT NOBODY, THAT WE

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WANT ALL PARTIES OF OUR NATION TO COOPERATE IN FORMING A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.... WHAT IS VERY CLEAR IS THAT THE SOCIAL AGRARIAN PARTY AND THE DEMOCRAT PARTY ARE COOPERATING IN FORMING THE GOVERNMENT. IN ADDITION, THE SOCIAL ACTION PARTY, THE NEW FORCE PARTY, AS WELL AS THE SOCIALIST UNITED FRONT PARTY, ARE SUPPORTING US. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS TO REQUEST THEM TO JOIN THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO MAKE IT A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. WHAT I

WANT IS FOR IT TO POSSESS REAL STABILITY. AS THE DEMOCRAT PARTY HAS INFORMEZ YOU ALREADY, WE MUST PUT ASIDE ALL PRIDE AND STUBBORNNESS, IS THE INTERESTS OF AND FOR THE SAKE OF OUR COUNTRY. THE MAIN PROBLEM FACING US AT PRESENT IS WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ENSURE THAT OUR NXRION MAY ENJOY STABILITY AND FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE. LET US TURN OVER A NEW PAGE IN HISTORY IN WHICH WE HAVE A GOVERNMENT WHICH ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PEOPLE, WHICH PERFORMS ALL WORK FOR THE PEOPLE, WHICH IS A GOVERNMENT THAT IS REALLY DEMOCRATIC. THIS IS WHY WE KEEP THE DOOR OPEN FOR EVERY PARTY WHICH IS HELP-ING SUPPORT US TO JOIN US.

REPORTER: SOME M.P.S ARE AFRAID THAT AFTER YOU HAVE SET UP THE GOVERNMENT THAT YOU WILL DISSOLVE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SENI: THAT IS NOT TRUE AT ALL.
KINTNER

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